



SIPA

Bulletin

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SOUTH INDIA PHILATELISTS' ASSOCIATION

(Founded 1956)

(Affiliated to the Philatelic Congress of India)

At our Monthly Meetings :

September '88. 19 Members were present.

The meeting was presided by Sri G. Madan Mohan Das. After the usual exchange of talks the meeting came to order.

Sri F. P. Seervai, Ex-President gave a detailed talk on, 'Stamp Separation.' He explained that the term *Separation* was used to describe methods of separating stamps. The earliest issue, such as, Penny Blacks did not have any means provided for separation and were intended to be cut apart with scissors. These stamps are known as imperforate stamps. Then separation was effected by two methods, *rouletting* and *perforation*.

In rouletting, the paper is cut partly, but no paper is removed. Some of the methods used in roulette are: *Line Rouletting*, *Pin-perforate*, *Arc or Saw toothed roulette*, *Serpentine roulette*.

All communications relating to the Bulletin may please be addressed to Mr. M. T. Karunakaran, Hony. Editor. 'SIPA Bulletin' 3, III Cross Street, Jayanagar, Tambaram Sanatorium, Madras.600 047.

The second style of separation of stamps is the one which is in universal use to-day and is called perforating. By this process the paper between the stamp is cut away in a line of holes, usually round, leaving little bridges of paper between stamps to hold them together.

Sri F. P. Seervai also gave details about *Perforation gauge*, *Compound perforation*, *Fine perforation*, *Coarse perforation*, *Rough perforation*, *Blind perforation*, etc. His display of album pages relating to the subject was very educative.

Then Sri G. Madan Mohan Das gave a short display talk on 'Modern Postal History'. He said the present postal system provides a lot of material that can be utilized for building modern postal history. Then he dwelt on '*Business Reply*' system in India. At present many business commercial establishments find their prospective customers with business

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The views Contained in the articles published are the author's own and not necessarily those of the Association.

SIPA MEETINGS

SECOND SUNDAY of every month - Regular meeting at the Philately Bureau, Anna Road Post Office

THIRD SUNDAY of every month - Auction meeting at our Library Hall at 6 Nandan Street, Madras-3

(Timings: 10.45 a.m. to 1 p.m.)

MAXIMAPHILY

G. MADAN MOHAN DAS.



A modern form of philately, MAXIMAPHILY is now recognised by the Federation Internationale de Philatele (FIP), the governing body of the stamp world. But what exactly is MAXIMAPHILY, and what are maximum cards?

MAXIMAPHILY a fascinating field of philately, is capturing the imaginations of increasing numbers of stamp and post card collectors all over the world. Each day, larger numbers of philatelists and post card enthusiasts are tempted to make and collect maximum cards, a beautiful, refreshing hobby that provides intellectual nourishment.

MAXIMAPHILY is the hobby of collecting maximum cards, which are philatelic items that consist of three concordant elements; a picture post card of standard continental size, a postage stamp valid for use on letters or postcards, and a postmark that is genuine and legible. These three elements - the post card, the postage stamp and the postmark - together must present the "MAXIMUM" concordance possible.

THE PICTURE POST CARD

Above all, the picture post card must conform to one of two standard sizes: 9 x 14 centimeters or 10½ x 15 centimeters. At least seventy-five percent of its area must be taken up by the picture, and it must be in fine condition. The following are inadmissible; partially illustrated post cards or card envelopes, cut-out cards, or any postcard bearing the design copying the stamp. The inclusion in an exhibit of post cards with multiple subject designs is justifiable only if all of the same subjects are included in the design of the postage stamp.

THE POSTAGE STAMP

Not only must the stamp on a maximum card be postally used within its period of validity, it should also be in excellent condition. Classes of stamps that have not been issued for the purpose of normal postal correspondence-i.e. fiscals, charity stamps, parcel post stamps, etc., are not admissible in maximaphily exhibitions. Miniature sheets comprising designs that cover or even over pass the design of the illustrated post card may be broken up or cut up, according to whether they are perforated. When this is done, the detached margin should be stuck on the reverse of the card. When a postage stamp illustrates more than a single subject, separate cards should be prepared for each of them. This is preferable to using a single card with more than one picture.

THE CANCELLATIONS

Cancellations used by various philatelic or other such bodies are considered postally valid in maximaphily exhibit only in those cases when have been approved or recognised by a postal administration, and when they bear the appropriate place, name and date. When the subject depicted is relevant, a pictorial cancellation is particularly desirable, because it unifies in the most appropriate fashion the stamp and the picture post card. In considering the special features of the three constituent elements of a

maximum card, the concordance and harmoniousness of those elements cannot be over emphasized. It is that agreement, that concordance, that identifies and marks an item as a maximum card. And it is that feature that makes maximaphily an absorbing hobby, one that gives the collector the receptional opportunity of being the creator of objects collected.

LINEAGE TRACING

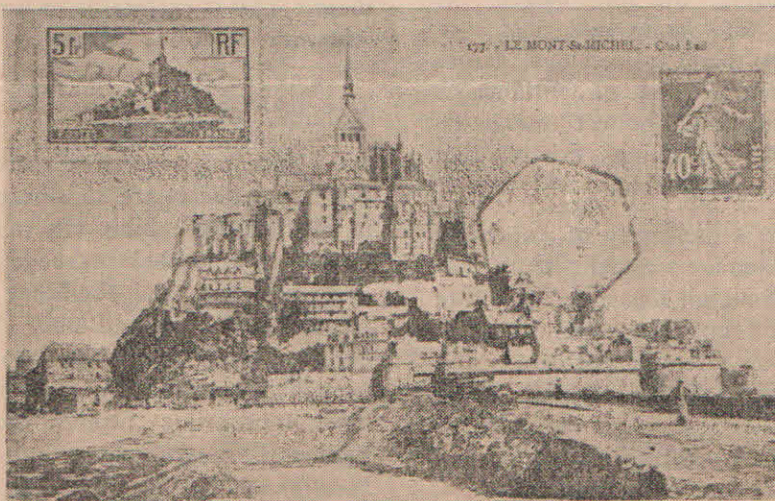
It is almost certain that the first maximum cards were made by accident, by collectors of post cards. In the beginning, these cards were called TCV (timber cote vue - literally, stamp beside the photograph) The oldest maximum cards date back to the beginning of this century. Popular history tells us that, between the years 1900, and 1915, a traveller journeying through Egypt sent post cards with illustrations of the Pyramids and the Sphinx to his friends. Beside the picture on each post card, he placed a stamp he had found at the post office in Cairo that showed the same view as the card. He had these cards postmarked as he would a letter, and in this way, whether purposely or not, he made the first maximum cards. Other early maximum cards are known from France, England, the United States, Austria, Romania and Switzerland. Among the illustrations are photographs of kings and presidents, symbolic figures and coats of arms. King Carol of Romania, for example, is the subject of maximum cards postmarked in Romania and France in May 1909.

Rudolph Stahl, one of the first collectors from Czechoslovakia, had many maximum cards dated 1908, which he obtained on his trips around the world.

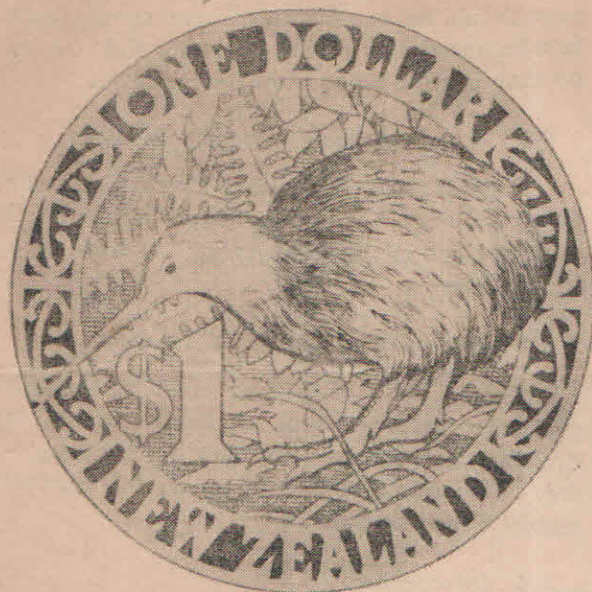
Only by 1930 the hobby was well-established. As more maximum cards were made the first clubs and maximaphily societies were formed. Only after World War II Maximaphily had a period of fantastic development. New groups were created in France, Greece, Belgium, Switzerland and the Eastern Countries. In 1962, the First international exposition of maximum cards, EUROMAX 1962, was held. This was followed by Paris Exhibition in 1964.

The popularity and the incredible development of maximaphily in the past two decades is in part a result of the double satisfaction the hobby offers to collectors; first, the satisfaction derived from achieving the harmony of the three elements so essential to a true maxi - the post card, the stamp and the post mark; second, the satisfaction of possessing a nice collection of maximum cards with pictures that surpass those on stamps from a graphic point of view and offer a large image. Today it is estimated there are more than 30,000 maximum card collectors in all the world. In New Delhi, during the 1980 International Exhibition held at the Pragati Maidan, a slide display talk was given by one of the Foreign visiting exhibitors and the response was not encouraging. Be that

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NEW ZEALAND'S First Round Stamp



NEW ZEALAND as seen for the first time. The year 1990 will mark 150 years since the early European settlers first set eyes on this beautiful land when the eyes of the world will turn to its sesquicentennial celebrations. To commemorate this landmark, New Zealand Post is producing a series of six stamp issues celebrating their country's 'Heritage'.

The first issue is 'The Land'— a set of six stamps featuring true reproductions of early New Zealand scenes as seen through the eyes of some of their most famous 19th century artists.

Artists who interpreted the crystal clear light and reegged scenery in a romanticised European fasion. These paintings were often seen to England as the first record of the new found frontier-persuading settlers to emigrate here. The stamps were printed using a Lithographic process and measure 40mm x 20mm.

For the first time, New Zealand Post is producing a round postage stamp. The stamp features appropriately. New Zealand's own unique species-The kiwi.

The stamp designer, Allan Mitchell of Wellington, has illustrated the native flightless bird among the ferns of its natural habitat.

A Maori Mattif around the circular border represents the kowhai tree flower-symbolising the continuous cycle of life

To ensure this unique stamp was of the highest quality the intaglio engraving process was used. By using this traditional process of engraving, the fine detail in the design has been captured.

The stamps were printed in one colour with the variation in hue, on the stamp corresponding to the depth of line engraved on the plate's surface. The darker the hue, the deeper the line.

The \$ 1 Kiwi stamp will be issued on October 19, 1988 and will be sold only in booklets of six stamps.

You can have a special souvenir of this unusual stamp by purchasing the specially designed First Day Cover each cover will bear the round \$ 1 Kiwi stamp cancelled in the first day of issue. Both the stamps booklet and First Day Cover can be ordered now Don't Delay - These unique souvenirs are sure to be in high demand.

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MAXIMIPHILY.....

as it may, Shri V. N. S. Rau, was appointed the co-ordinator then by the Philatelic Congress of India Again at the recently held meeting of the Governing Council of the Philatelic Congress of India at New Delhi, Shri P. GUPTA was again nominated as the Co-ordinator, eventhough Maximaphily has made very little dent in our country. For collectors who would like to start a new byway of Philately, this hobby of Maximaphily abounds with a pleotra of material which is still has to be tapped and made use of by the potential prospective upcoming collectors. More details about the clubs/ Societies on Maximaphily, their membership fees etc., can be had from Shri V. N. S. Rau or Mr. P. Gupta, C/o INFAR (INDIA) Ltd., 7, Wood Street, CALCUTTA-600 016.

Guidelines for judging collections of Young Philatelists —(contd.)

3.4 *Cleanlines of cancellation of stamps*

3.5 *Cleanlines of cancellation of covers*

Stamps and covers should have clean cancellations, appropriate to the branch of philately involved. The cancellations should be clear, clean, distinct, easily readable and yet "light" so that the illustration on the stamp remains visible.

It is requested that postally used material be used. CTOs are undesirable.

3.6 *Proper distribution of materials.*

Cancelled and mint material should not be shown on the same page. Uniformity of material condition should be maintained throughout the entire exhibit.

4. IMPRESSIONS ;

4.1 *General impressions of the collection*

The entire collection should have a balanced appearance. Margins at top and bottom of each page should be consistent. There should also be a balanced distribution of stamps and covers, on each page and also within each frame.

4.2 *Arrangement of materials on pages*

Pages should be neither overloaded nor empty looking. Grouping of types of material must be done in an eye-appealing as well as a logical manner,

4.3 *Setting-off of stamps and covers*

Simple ways of placing emphasis on the philatelic materials such as using mounts or drawing thin borders with dark ink are suggested. This should be done in a careful manner and be clean and exact.

4.4 *Description.*

The exhibitor is expected to choose an appropriate size of script and that the text is presented in a clean and legible manner.

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CHRISTMAS 1988

Pitcairn Islands will be issuing a se-tenant strip of four stamps based on the Christmas Theme on 30th November 1988.



OLD CATALOGUES FOR SALE

The following Old Stamp Catalogues are available in SIPA Library for sale.

Offers invited. Postage and Packing extra.

REGENT CATALOGUES :

- Vol. I 1930
- Vol. II 1931-38
1331-39

STANLEY GIBBONS :

- 1949 British Empire (Period 1840-1936
Sec. A)
- 1952 British Empire (Complete)
- 1959 British Common Wealth Part I
- 1958 Simplified Stamp Catalogue
(Whole World)
- 1950 Postage Stamps Catalogue
Part II (Europe)
- 1979 Stamp Catalogue (France)

SCOTTS: Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue
1971 Vol. I only

YVERT & TELLIER :

- 1. TIMBRES DE FRANCE
TOME I 1963
- 2. TIMBRES DE FRANCE
TOME I 1976
- 3. TIMBRES DE EUROPE II 1977
- 4. TIMBRES DE OUTRE-MER
TOME III 1977

THIAUDE : TIMBRES POSTE 1972

INDIA '89-Commemorative Air Mail Post cards
A set of seven limited edition Foreign
Air Mail Post Cards Commemorating
INDIA-'89 will be issued on 1st
December 1988.

Propagation Of Philately

We are glad to note that Sri K. C. Veeraghavan has taken note of one of the programmes of the South India Philatelists' Association - the Propagation of Philately in Schools and given effect to it tremendously in his own way.

In continuation to his previous coverage of 8 Schools he has inaugurated or given lectures in five more schools in Madras. With this trend we are sure he can complete his project of covering atleast 52 schools in a year.

The schools covered by him from 22-9-88 to 7-10-88 are as follows :

9. Kalaperumal Chetty Senior Secondary School, Arumbakkam, Madras-600 106
10. Leo Matriculation School, Anna Nagar, (West) Madras-600 101.
11. H S. Senior Secondary School, Mylapore Madras-600 004.
12. R.K.M. Sarada Vidyalaya, Model Higher Secondary School, T. Nagar,
Madras.600 017.
13. Asan Memorial Senior Secondary School, Madras-600 006.

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At our Monthly Meetings...

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reply service at their own cost. This system, he said was introduced in India in the year 1931 - 32, as there is a reference in P.O. rules to this system. He also referred to a circular No. P-203/35 dated 1st October 1935 issued by then Mr. G. V. Bewoor Director General of Posts & Telegraphs, New Delhi in which he had advised the business community to use the *Business Reply System* for the person-development contact with prospective customers and secure more business with the heading, 'TRADE FOLLOWS THE MAIL'. He said that only two known examples of the front and back of the card issued in 1949 and used is recorded. Then he showed some of the recently issued cards and envelopes to the members and hoped some of them would get interested.

A Department that Works

There is one Department that works. The present establishment cannot claim credit for its creditable performance because this department is one of the oldest and has been working in its own silent way for many, long decades. This is the Postal Department.

As occasional complaint gets ventilated through newspapers columns that a letter or post card took days, or weeks, to travel to its destination. That makes news. But people have not been told of the astounding magnitude of the work which gets performed with efficiency. To this extent the public relations work of the Postal Department has been inadequate.

Let us look at the performance. During 1987-88 the department has delivered the following; 70 crore postcards, 97 crore inland letters, 17 crore letters, 24 crore single newspapers; its foreign post received 52 crore letters and 6 lakh parcels and sent out 19 crore letters and 3 lakh parcels. These figures are mind boggling. Take only the post cards. Lay this 70 crore post cards end to end. This will girdle the entire earth, twice over. Take

the inland letters, laid in piles of ten feet height they will fill 500 rooms and cover the entire area of Parliament Building.

Performance of this Department includes many other items. Money Orders 14 crores parcels 7 crore; parcel of books etc., 5 crore. The transactions registered in its savings accounts during the years were; 27,38,24, 842 figures of aggregate amount running into hundreds of crores.

Let us look at its spread. It operates through 1.5 lakh post offices, comprising to the largest postal networks in the whole world, larger than of China, USA, and USSR. The number of post offices at the time of Independence was 22,000; it has now multiplied seven times, reaching out to over 1.5 lakh villages.

It has 6 lakh employees, second biggest employer in the country next to the Railway.

(Courtesy: COMMON CAUSE)

From:

Sri S. BALAKRISHNAN,

Life Member, South India Philatelists'

Association.